

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 166076
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TAGS: OAS

SUBJECT: OASGA JUNE 29, 1978

USDEL 23

SUMMARY: MAIN ACTION JUNE 29 TOOK PLACE IN GENERAL
COMMITTEE, WHICH CONTINUED DEBATE ON OAS REFORM WITH-
OUT SOLUTION AND WITH UNCERTAIN PROSPECTS FOR
SUCCESS OF MEXICAN AND US COMBINED EFFORTS. FIRST
COMMITTEE CONSIDERED IAHRC REPORT ON URUGUAY IN
GENERALLY MODERATE FASHION, WITH RELATIVELY MUTED
STATEMENTS BOTH BY COMMISSION AND GOU. VENEZUELA'S
MACHIN WAS STRONGEST CRITIC. SEPTTEL DISCUSSES ECO-
NOMIC RESOLUTIONS PROGRESS OF SECOND COMMITTEE
TO DATE. THIRD COMMITTEE COMPLETED ITS WORK.
BUDGET QUOTA REAPPORTIONMENT WILL BE CONSIDERED BY
SIXTH SPECIAL GA. --

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PAGE 02 STATE 166076

2. AS ON JUNE 28, GENERAL COMMITTEE JUNE 29 DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO NEGOTIATING GROUP ON OAS REFORM. DE
LA COLINA (MEXICO) REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED HIS PROPOSAL
WAS WORKING PAPER NOT A DRAFT RESOLUTION AND REASSURED
ALL DELS THAT INTENTION WAS NOT TO PREVENT ANY
INTERESTED COUNTRY FROM PARTICIPATING IN NEGOTIATING
COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS, BUT HE INSISTED ALL PARTICIPANTS

SHOULD BE REPRESENTED AT HIGH LEVEL. PANAMA (PITTY) PICKED ENDLESSLY AT MEXICAN AND U.S. DOCUMENTS. HE MADE SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS SUCH AS NON-PROVISION OF FUNDING IN CURRENT BUDGET FOR COMMITTEE WORK, AND CHARGED THAT 'RENOWNED EXPERTS' ON INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM ALMOST NON-EXISTENT IN U.S. PITTY'S BASIC INTENT IS TO EMASCULATE THE NEGOTIATING GROUP PROPOSAL BY DEVICE OF KEEPING RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESTRUCTURING IN THE PERMANENT COUNCIL. DESPITE AMBASSADOR MCGEE'S CLEAR STATEMENT THAT US INTENTION WAS NOT TO GIVE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE ANY POWER TO DECIDE BY ITSELF, BUT WE SAW IT AS A CHANCE TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THE QUAGMIRE IN WHICH RESTRUCTURING ISSUE HAD RESTED FOR YEAR AND A HALF, PITTY REPEATEDLY ASSERTED HE HAD SEEN NO EVIDENCE OF US WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THREE PRINCIPLES EMBODIED IN EXISTING RESOLUTIONS ON WHICH TO NEGOTIATE -- REVISED CHARTER, PLUS DRAFT CONVENTIONS ON COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY AND COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT -- AND THAT US, WITH SUPPORT FROM MEXICO, WAS TRYING AN END RUN BY SETTING UP A NEW MECHANISM AND IGNORING EARLIER GA RESOLUTIONS THAT US DOES NOT LIKE. PANAMA INSISTED NEAR END OF SESSION ON PUTTING EVEN FORMATION OF WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE PROPOSAL TO A VOTE, DESPITE FACT THAT THERE ARE NO CONCRETE PROPOSALS SO FAR, EITHER MEXICAN, OR U.S., ONLY WORKING PAPERS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 166076

BRAZIL PUSHED THROUGH PROPOSAL FOR ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY MORNING. OUTCOME REMAINS UNCLEAR BUT MEXICO, VENEZUELA AND PERU ARE ATTEMPTING TO FORMULATE A RESOLUTION THAT WILL REFLECT BASIC MEXICAN PROPOSAL.

3. COMMITTEE I AFTERNOON SESSION BEGAN WITH REFERENCE OF U.S. AND VENEZUELAN DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON ANNUAL REPORT OF IAHRIC TO WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF U.S., VENEZUELA, CHILE, PERU AND MEXICO. US DEL (TRAGEN) MADE SHORT STATEMENT THAT U.S. WAS OPEN TO SUGGESTION ON CHANGES TO ITS DRAFT RESOLUTION. TRAGEN ALSO REITERATED US POSITION IN VII GA IN GRENADA THAT ALL COUNTRIES OF HEMISPHERE, INCLUDING CUBA, WERE SUBJECT TO JURISDICTION OF IAHRIC. US DEL MET EVENING OF JUNE 28 WITH DELEGATION OF JAMAICA, PERU, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

AND VENEZUELA TO COORDINATE POSITIONS ON RESOLUTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON LANGUAGE TO BE SUPPORTED BY VARIOUS DELEGATIONS (TRANSMITTED TO ADDRESSEES BY SEPTELS.)

4. COMMITTEE I THEN MOVED TO CONSIDERATION OF IAHRIC

REPORT ON URUGUAY. IAHC PRESIDENT ANDRES AGUILAR BEGAN WITH DISPASSIONATE RECITAL OF ELEMENTS OF REPORT. AGUILAR DEFENDED COMMISSION'S METHOD OF GATHERING AND EVALUATING INFORMATION, RECOGNIZED WHICH HE CALLED THE 'SPECIAL SITUATION' WHICH URUGUAY HAD LIVED THROUGH IN RECENT YEARS AND DETAILED THE GOU'S LACK OF COOPERATION WITH IAHC INVESTIGATIONS. GOU REP (GIAMBRUNO) FOLLOWED WITH GENERALLY LOW-KEY DEFENSE OF GOU RECORD. EXPRESSING RESPECT FOR IAHC BECAUSE OF QUALITY OF ITS MEMBERS, GIAMBRUNO EXPRESSED GOU DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH COMMISSION IN FUTURE. GIAMBRUNO CRITICIZED COMMISSION'S METHODOLOGY, IN PARTICULAR CHARGING THAT REPORT ON URUGUAY HAD BEEN WRITTEN BY AMCIT WHO WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 166076

CARRYING OUT INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN OF DEFAMATION AGAINST URUGUAY. ARGUING THAT ABUSES OCCUR EVERYWHERE, EVEN IN ADVANCED DEMOCRACIES, GIAMBRUNO AGREED THAT URUGUAY WAS DOING BEST IT COULD IN SITUATION OF WAR TO DEATH WITH INTERNATIONALLY-BACKED TERRORISM. AGUILAR RESPONDED BRIEFLY TO DEFEND IAHC AND AFFIRM FULL COMMISSION SUPPORT FOR REPORT ON URUGUAY. VENEZUELAN DEL (MACHIN) THEN INFLICTED HOUR-LONG MONOLOGUE ON COMMITTEE AND PROMISED TO HAVE MORE TO SAY TOMORROW.

5. US DEL (TRAGEN) MADE STATEMENT IN WHICH HE NOTED WITH REGRET WIDE DIFFERENCES IN DESCRIPTIONS OF SITUATION IN URUGUAY PRESENTED BY IAHC AND COU. HE NOTED HOWEVER, THAT TONE OF DEBATE IN THIS GA WAS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THAT WHICH TOOK PLACE IN GRENADA AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS WAS GOOD SIGN FOR FUTURE. TRAGEN SUGGESTED THE BEST WAY TO RESOLVE DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW WOULD BE CLOSER COOPERATION BY THE GOU AND IAHC, EXPRESSED HOPE THAT INCREASED COOPERATION WOULD LEAD TO GOU PROMOTION FOR VISIT TO URUGUAY BY IAHC, AND CONCLUDED THAT U.S. HOPED TO SEE REPORT OF DIFFERENT NATURE AT NEXT GA.

6. MEETING CLOSED WITH REBUTTAL OF MACHIN BY URUGUAYAN DEL. COMMITTEE I WILL RESUME DEBATE MORNING OF JUNE 30.

7. THIRD COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL MATTERS, CONCLUDED ITS BUSINESS ON THURSDAY. A VARIETY OF HORTATORY RESOLUTIONS WERE PASSED. ONE RESOLUTION OF SUBSTANCE AUTHORIZED THE USE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 05 STATE 166076

UP TO \$100,000 FROM THE RESERVE SUB-FUND OF THE CULTURAL ACCOUNT, FOR REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTERS ACTIVITIES. ONE OTHER RESOLUTION AUTHORIZES THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTER FOR THE NON-SPANISH CARIBBEAN.

8. REAPPORTIONMENT OF BUDGET QUOTA (REGULAR FUND)--
WE WERE SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING A RESOLUTION REQUIRING THE PERMANENT COUNCIL TO WORK OUT A FORMULA IN TIME FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SIXTH SPECIAL GA, INSTEAD OF THE NINTH REGULAR GA AS SOME MEMBERS PROPOSED. THUS WE HAVE MOVED THE DEADLINE UP BY ONE YEAR. VANCE

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